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Press Release

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Statement by Cal/EPA Secretary Regarding Governor's Executive Order Promoting Biofuels

SACRAMENTO – Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger today issued Executive Order S-06-06 supporting the use of biomass resources from agriculture, forestry and urban wastes which can be turned into energy and fuel.

California Environmental Protection Agency Acting Secretary Dan Skopec issued the following statement on the Executive Order:

"With the rising costs at the pump, I applaud the Governor's commitment to advancing biofuels. Increasing the use of bioenergy is essential to improve public health and protect our environment. The Governor's vision to promote the innovative use of bioenergy resources is an important key to reducing emissions from cars, trucks and buses. By promoting biofuels, California can reduce its dependence on petroleum – reducing air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions.

"Climate change threatens California's public health. There are serious implications on our water resources and the agricultural industry. More than 40 percent of California's greenhouse gas emissions come from the transportation sector. The bioenergy goals established in the executive order will play a key role in meeting the Governor's climate change targets."

The Governor's Executive Order comes on the heels of the Climate Action Team Report to the Governor and the Legislature to reduce climate change emissions. As one of nine key recommendations, the report calls for the development of an aggressive alternative fuels program through the collaborative efforts of the Cal/EPA, California Energy Commission and the Department of Food and Agriculture.

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